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MESSAGE
OF THE
President of the United States,
TO
BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS.
May 4th, 1798.

[*Concluded from our laſt.*]

In the Weſt-Indies ſimilar depredations have been experienced. On the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1796 the ſpecial agents of the Executive Directory to the windward Iſlands decreed, that all veſſels loaded with contraband ſhould be ſeized and confiſcated for the benefit of the captors.

On the ſeventh Frimaire, 5th year of the French republic, one and indiviſible, (27th November, 1796) the commiſſion delegated by the French republic to the Leeward Iſlands, reſolved that the captains of French national veſſels and privateers are authoriſed to ſtop and bring into the ports of the colony American veſſels bound to Engliſh ports or coming from the ſaid ports.

On the 19th Pluviose, 5th year of the French republic, one and indiviſible, (February 18, 1797) Victor Hughes and Lebas, the ſpecial agents of the executive directory to the Windward Iſlands, paſſed a decree, ſubjecting to capture and confiſcation neutral veſſels deſtined for the Windward and Leeward Iſlands of America, delivered up to the Engliſh, and occupied and defended by the emigrants. Theſe ports are ſaid to be Martinico, St. Lucie, Tobago, Demerara, Berbice, Eſſequibo, Port au Prince, St. Marks, L'Archaye, and Jeremie. The decree alſo ſubjects to capture all veſſels which have cleared for the Weſt-Indies generally.

The underſigned will not detain you, citizen Miniſter, for the purpoſe of proving now directly and openly theſe decrees violate both the law of nations and the treaty between France and the United States.

They have been executed on the officers and crews of the captured veſſels in a manner by no means calculated to mitigate their rigor.

The decree of the 14th Meſſidor, was ſoon followed by another which has ſpared but little of the American commerce, except what has fortunately eſcaped the purſuit of the cruizers of France. On the twelfth Ventoſe, 5th year, (2d March, 1797) the Executive Directory conſidering the treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation concluded at London the 19th November, 1794, between the ſaid United States and England, as containing conceſſions of privileges to Britain which under the treaty of February, 1778, might be enjoyed by this republic alſo, proceeds to modify the treaty between France and the United States, by declaring enemies goods in American bottoms liable to capture and confiſcation; by enlarging the liſt of contraband, and by ſubjecting to puniſhment as a pirate any American citizen holding a commiſſion given by the enemies of France, as well as every ſeaman of that nation, making a part of the crew of enemies ſhips. The decree next proceeds to exact from American papers which had been made neceſſary to eſtabliſh the neutrality of foreign veſſels, generally by the ordinance of the 26th of July, 1778, but which had never been conſidered as applying to the United [States,] which required paper their veſſels could not be ſuppoſed to poſſeſs, and which the treaty between the two nations was ſuppoſed to have rendered unneceſſary.

The baſis taken by the Executive Directory, on which to reſt their modification of the treaty of the ſixth of February, 1778, is that by the treaty of the nineteenth November, 1794, *particular favors in reſpect of commerce and navigation have been granted to England.*

It has been demonſtrated that no particular favors in reſpect of commerce or navigation, have been granted to England. The treaty has been ſhewn only to recognize, regulate, and moderate the exerciſe of the rights before poſſeſſed, and before openly acknowledged to be poſſeſſed--rights which France and America had reciprocally ceded to each other, without requiring, as a condition of the ceſſion, that either ſhould compel England to form a ſimilar ſtipulation.

But to admit for a moment that the treaty with England might be conſidered as ſtipulating favors not before poſſeſſed, yet the American government did not ſo underſtand that treaty, and had manifeſted a diſpoſition to modify, by common conſent, its relations with this republic, in ſuch a manner as to reinſtate a rule, which has been voluntarily changed. It cannot but be ſincerely regretted, becauſe it ſeemed to indicate an unfriendly temper, that France has deemed it more eligible to eſtabliſh by force, in oppoſition to her treaty, a principle which ſhe deemed convenient, than to fix that principle on the fair baſis of mutual and amicable agreement.

But the clauſe under which theſe modifications are adjuſted is in theſe words: "*The moſt Chriſtian King and the United States engage mutually not to grant any particular favor to other nations, in reſpect of commerce and navigation, which ſhall not immediately become common to the other party, who ſhall enjoy the ſame favor freely, if the conceſſion was freely made, or on allowing the ſame compenſation, if the conceſſion was conditional.*" If theſe ſtipulations unequivocally amounted to the grant of favors ſtill the grant is not gratuitous. The conceſſions on the part of the United States, are made on condition of ſimilar conceſſions on the part of Britain. If therefore France chuſes to conſider them as modifications of the treaty of 1778, ſhe can only do it by granting the reciprocal condition; on this ſuppoſition ſhe has either of the rules at her election, but ſhe cannot vary from the firſt without the compact on her part to grant the reciprocal ſtipulation. Such a compact is in the nature of a national treaty.

But the rules laid down in the decree of the 12th Ventoſe, 5th year, (March 2d, 1797) is founded on the 17th, 18th, and 21ſt articles of the treaty of the 19th of November, 1794, are materially variant from thoſe articles. To demonſtrate this it is only neceſſary to contraſt the rules of the decree with the articles of the treaty on which thoſe rules are ſaid to founded.

Articles of the treaty of the nineteenth November, as quoted by the Directory.

Article 17

It is agreed, that in all caſes where veſſels ſhall be captured or detained *on juſt ſuſpicion* of having on board enemies property, or of carrying to the enemy any of the articles which are contraband of war, the ſaid veſſel ſhall be brought to the neareſt or moſt convenient port; and *if any property of an enemy ſhall be found on board ſuch veſſel, that part only which belongs to the enemy ſhall be made prize,* and the veſſel ſhall be at liberty to proceed with the remainder without any impediment. And it is agreed that all proper meaſures ſhall be taken to prevent delay in deciding the caſes of ſhips or cargoes ſo brought for adjudication; and in the payment or recovery of any indemnification adjudged or agreed to be paid to the owners or maſters of ſuch ſhips.

Rules eſtabliſhed by the arrete of the Directory.

Rule 1.

According to the ſeventeenth article of the treaty of London, of the 19th of November, 1794, all merchandize of the enemy, or *merchandize not ſufficiently proved to be neutral,* laden under the American flag, ſhall be confiſcated, but the veſſel on board of which it ſhall be found, ſhall be releaſed and reſtored to the owner. It is enjoined on the commiſſaries of the Executive Directory to accelerate by all the means in their power, the deciſion of conteſts which ſhall ariſe either on the validity of the prize cargo, or on the freight or demurrage.

According to the article, when *on juſt ſuſpicion* of having on board enemy's property, or of carrying to the enemy contraband of war, a veſſel ſhall be brought into port, that part *only which belongs to the enemy* ſhall be made prize according to the then the article ſaid whether the property does or does not belong to an enemy is to be fairly tried. The party who would eſtabliſh the fact muſt prove it. The captor muſt ſhew the *juſtice* of the ſuſpicion on which the capture or detention was founded. The burthen of the proof reſt upon him. If in truth and in fact the property does not belong to an enemy, or is not proved to belong to an enemy, it muſt be diſcharged.——But the rule purſues a different courſe. The rule declares that merchandize of the enemy or *not ſufficiently proved to be neutral,* laden under the American flag, ſhall be confiſcated. The burthen of the proof is ſhifted from the captor to the captured. The queſtion to be tried is not ſolely whether the merchandize be in fact the property of an enemy, but alſo whether it be *ſufficiently proved to be neutral*—The ſufficiency of this proof is to be aſcertained, not by general and ſatisfactory teſtimony, not by the great principle of truth and the common underſtanding of mankind, but by the exhibition of certain papers demandable at the will of one of the parties, and in the poſſeſſion of the other. This may be a regulation which France chooſes to eſtabliſh; but certainly it is a regulation, eſſentially variant from the article it profeſſes to reſemble.

Art. 18. In order to regulate what is in future to be eſteemed contraband of war it is agreed that under the ſaid denomination ſhall be compriſed all arms and inſtruments ſerving for the purpoſes of war, by land or by ſea, as cannon muſkets, mortars petards, bombs, grenades, carcaſſes, ſauciſſes, carriages for cannon, muſket reſts, bandoliers, gunpowder, match, ſaltpetre, ball, pikes, ſwords, head-pieces, cuiraſſes, halberts, lances, javelins, horſe furniture, holſters, belts, and generally all other implements of war; as alſo timber for ſhip-building, tar or roſin, copper in ſheets, ſails, hemp and cordage, and generally whatever may ſerve *directly to the equipment of veſſels,* unwrought iron and fir-plank only excepted.

Rule 2. According to the 18th article of the treaty of London of the 19th of November 1794 to the articles declared contraband by the 24th article of the treaty of the 6th of Feb. 1778, are added the following articles:

Timber for ſhip-building, pitch, tar and roſin, copper in ſheets, ſails, hemp and cordage, and every thing which ſerves *directly* or *indirectly* for the armament and equipment of veſſels, unwrought iron and fir planks excepted. Theſe ſeveral articles ſhall be confiſcated whenever they ſhall be deſtined or attempted to be carried to the enemy.

The immenſe number of articles which may ſerve indirectly for the armament and equipment of veſſels, are made contraband by the rule of the Directory, though they are not ſo by the article it profeſſes to cite.

Art. 21. It is likewiſe agreed that the ſubjects and citizens of the two nations ſhall not do any acts of hoſtility or violence againſt each other, nor accept commiſſioners or inſtructions ſo to act from any foreign prince or ſtate enemies to the party; nor ſhall the enemies of one of the parties be permitted to invite or endeavour to inliſt in their military ſervice any of the ſubjects or citizens of the other party; and the laws againſt all ſuch offences and aggreſſions ſhall be punctually executed. And if any ſubject or citizen of the ſaid parties reſpectively ſhall accept any foreign commiſſion or letters of marque for arming any veſſel to act as a privateer againſt the other party, it is hereby declared to be lawful for the ſaid party to treat and punith the ſaid ſubject or citizen having ſuch commiſſion or letters of marque as a pirate.

Rule 3. According to the 21ſt article of the treaty of London of the 19th Nov. 1794, every individual known to be an American, who ſhall hold a commiſſion given by the enemies of France, as well as every ſeaman of that nation making a part of the crew of enemies ſhips, ſhall by that act be declared a pirate, and treated as ſuch without being allowed in any caſe to alledge that he was forced to do it by violence, menaces or otherwiſe.

The government of the United States has never formed a treaty comprehending an article in any degree ſimilar to this rule. It has never aſſented to ſuch ſtipulations as they relate to its own citizens or required them as they relate to thoſe of other powers. The difference between the article and the rule requires no comment. Nor will the rule be commented on. The underſigned will only obſerve, that the article is by no means uncommon, but it is to be found in moſt treaties of amity and commerce. The 21ſt article of the treaty with France, the 19th of the treaty with the United Provinces, the 23d of the treaty with Sweden, and the 20th article of the treaty with Pruſſia, contain ſimilar ſtipulations. It is not eaſy to conceive a reaſon why it ſhould not alſo be inſerted in a treaty with England, or why its inſertion ſhould give offence to France.

But the fourth rule of the decree is in its operation the moſt extenſive and the moſt ſeriouſly deſtructive. That rule declares that, "Conformably to the law of the 11th of February 1793, the regulations of the 21ſt of October 1744, and of the 26th of July, 1778, concerning the manner of proving the property of neutral ſhips and merchandize, ſhall be executed according to their form and tenor.

"Every American ſhip ſhall therefore be good prize, which ſhall not have on board a liſt of the crew in proper form, ſuch as are preſcribed by the model annexed to the treaty of the 6th of February 1778, the obſervance of which is required by the 25th and 27th articles of the ſame treaty."

This rule requires, that American ſhips and merchandize in order to prove the property to be American ſhall exhibit certain papers, and eſpecially a role d'equipage, which are required of neutrals generally by the particular marine ordinances of France, recited in the decrees of the Directory. But France and America have entered into a ſolemn treaty, one object of which was to ſecure the veſſels of either party, which might be at peace, from the cruiſers of the other which might be engaged in war. To effect this object the contracting parties have not referred each other to the particular ſtatutes or ordinances of either government, but have enumerated the papers which ſhould be deemed ſufficient. They have done more: They have preſcribed the very form of the paſſport which ſhould eſtabliſh the neutrality of the veſſel, and prevent her being diverted from her courſe. The 25th and 27th articles of the treaty between the two nations, which are quoted by the Directory, and are conſidered by the underſigned as concluſive on this ſubject, are in theſe words:

Art. 25 "To the end that all manner of diſſentions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented on the one ſide and on the other, it is agreed that in caſe either of the parties hereto ſhould be engaged in war, the ſhips and veſſels belonging to the ſubjects or people of the other ally muſt be furniſhed with ſea-letters or paſſports expreſſing the name, property and burk of the ſhip, as alſo the name and place of habitation of the maſter or commander of the ſaid ſhip, that it may appear thereby that the ſaid ſhip really and truly belongs to the ſubjects of one of the parties, which paſſport ſhall be made out and granted according to the form annexed to this treaty, and they ſhall likewiſe be recalled every year, that is, if the ſhip happens to return home in the ſpace of a year. It is likewiſe agreed that ſuch ſhips, being laden, are to be provided not only with paſſports, as above mentioned but alſo with certificates containing the ſeveral particulars of the cargo, the place whence the ſhip ſailed, and whither ſhe is bound, that ſo it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband goods be on board the ſame; which certificates ſhall be made out by the officers of the place, whence the ſhip ſet ſail, in the accuſtomed form; and if any one ſhall think it fit or adviſeable to expreſs in the ſaid certificates the perſon to whom the goods on board belong he may freely do ſo"

"Art. 27. If the ſhips of the ſaid ſubjects, people or inhabitants, of either of the parties, ſhall be met with either ſailing along the coaſts, or on the high ſeas, by any ſhip of war of the other, or by any privateers, for the avoiding of any diſorder, ſhall remain out of cannon ſhot, and ſend their boats aboard the merchant ſhip which they ſhall ſo meet with, and may enter her to the number of two or three men only, to whom the maſter or commander of ſuch ſhip or veſſel ſhall exhibit his paſſport, concerning the property of the ſhip made out according to the form inſerted in this preſent treaty; and the ſhip when ſhe ſhall have ſhewed ſuch paſſport ſhall be free and at liberty to purſue her voyage, ſo as it ſhall not be lawful to moleſt or ſearch her in any manner or to give her chaſe or force her to quit her intended courſe"

It will be admitted, that the two nations poſſeſs the power of agreeing that any paper in any form ſhall be the ſole document, demandable by either from the other, to prove the property of a veſſel and cargo. It will alſo be admitted, that an agreement ſo made becomes the law of the parties, which muſt retain its obligation.

Examine then the words of the compact, and determine by fair conſtruction what will ſatisfy them.

The 25th article ſtates ſubſtantially the contents of a paper, which is termed a ſea-letter or paſſport, and which "it is agreed that in caſe either of the parties ſhould be engaged in war the ſhips and veſſels belonging to the ſubjects or people of the other ally muſt be furniſhed with." To what purpoſe are they to be furniſhed with this ſea-letter or paſſport? The article anſwers, "To the end that all manner of diſſentions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented, on one ſide and the other". "That it may appear thereby that the ſhip really and truly belongs to the ſubjects of one of the parties."

But how will the paſſport "prevent and avoid all ſorts of diſſentions and quarrels on one ſide or the other," if ordinances, both prior and ſubſequent to the treaty, are to be underſtood as controling it, and as requiring other papers not contemplated in the public agreement of the two nations? How is it to appear from the paſſport, that the ſhip really and truly belongs to the ſubjects of one of the parties, if it is denied that the paſſport is evidence of that fact, and contended that other papers not alluded to in the treaty, ſhall be adduced to prove it.

But the 27th article is ſtill more explicit. It declares that when a merchant ſhip of one of the parties ſhall be viſited by the ſhips of war or privateers of the other, "the commander of ſuch ſhip or veſſel ſhall exhibit his paſſport concerning the property of the ſhip, made out according to the form inſerted in the preſent treaty, and the ſhip when ſhe ſhall have ſhewed ſuch paſſport, ſhall be free and at liberty to purſue her voyage, ſo as it ſhall not be lawful to moleſt or ſearch her in any manner, or to give chaſe, or force her to quit her intended courſe" What is it that ſhall prove the property of the veſſel? The treaty anſwers, the paſſport. But the decree of the Directory requires in addition certain other papers, perfectly diſtinct from the paſſport. The treaty declares, that "the ſhip when ſhe ſhall have ſhewed (not the role d'equipage or any other paper, required by the particular ordinances of either nation, but "ſuch paſſport ſhall be free and at liberty to purſue her voyage, ſo as it ſhall not be lawful to moleſt or ſearch her in any manner, or to give her chaſe or force her to quit her intended courſe." Yet the veſſels of America, after exhibiting "ſuch paſſport" are not "free and at liberty to purſue their voyage;" they are "moleſted;" they are "chaſed," they are "forced to quit their intended courſe;" they are captured and confiſcated as hoſtile property.

It is alledged that the form of the paſſport, which is annexed to the treaty, manifeſts that certain acts were to be performed by the perſon to whom the paſſport is delivered, and that ſuch perſon ought to prove the performance of thoſe acts.

But the treaty far from requiring ſuch proof abſolutely diſpenſes with it. The treaty declares that the paſſport ſhall itſelf evidence the property of the veſſel and ſecure it from moleſtation of any ſort.—By conſent of the parties then the paſſport is evidence of all that either party can require from the other. Neither the right to give ſuch conſent, or the obligation of a compact formed upon it can as is conceived, ever be denied, nor can the form of the paſſport, whatever it may be, change the compact.

But let the words of the model be examined.—They are, "A tous ceaux qui ces preſentes verront: Soit notoire que faculte et permiſſion a ete accordee a maitre ou commandant du navire appelle de la ville de de la capacite de tonneaux ou environ, ſe trouvant preſentment le port de qu apres que ſon navire a et viſite et avant ſon depart il pretera ſerment entre les mains des officiers de la marine, qui le dit navire appartient a un ou pluſieurs ſujets de dont l'acte ſera mis a la fin des preſentes; de meme qu il gardera les ordonnances et reglements maritimes, et termettra une liſte ſignee et conſignee par temoins, contenant les noms et ſurnoms les lieux de naiſſance, et la demeure des perſonnes compoſant l'equipage, de ſon navire, et de tous ceux qui embarqueront, leſquels il ne recevra pas a bord ſans connoiſſance et permiſſion des officers de marine; et dans chaque port au navre, il montrera la preſente permiſſion aux officiers et juges de marine."

It is material to obſerve, that the model requires the oath concerning the property of the veſſel to be annexed to the paſſport, but does not require any other certificate or the annexation of any paper whatever. Why this difference? It is a ſolemn proof of that for which the articles ſtipulates, and therefore the model expreſſes that the evidence of this fact ſhall be annexed, but it does not require the production of the evidence of any other fact.

It ſeems then to be demonſtrated that the ſea letter or paſſport, a model of which is annexed to the treaty, is by ſolemn agreement to be received by each party as concluſive teſtimony that the veſſel producing ſuch paſſport is the property of a citizen of the other, and is conſequently to continue her voyage without moleſtation or hindrance.

But let it be ſuppoſed that the treaty on this ſubject was leſs concluſive, and that its ſtipulations had been ambiguouſly expreſſed; yet it is certain that it has been uniformly underſtood by both parties as the underſigned have expounded it, and that neither France nor the United States, previous to the decree complained of, conſidered the veſſels of either nation, producing the paſſport agreed on as liable to capture for want of a role d'equipage.

For more than four years after her treaty with the United States, France was engaged in a war with Britain, and in the courſe of that time it was never ſuggeſted that a role d'equipage was neceſſary for the protection of an American veſſel. It does not weaken the argument that the United States were alſo parties to the war. The principle aſſumed is, that without the production of the papers required by the decree, the veſſel does not appear to be, and cannot be conſidered as American property. If this principle be correct, it would not ceaſe to apply becauſe the United States were engaged in the war. Was America even engaged in the war on the part of France, a Britiſh veſſel carrying American colors would not be ſecured by the flag ſhe bore. It would be neceſſary to prove by her papers, or other admiſſible teſtimony, that the veſſel was American property. If this fact cannot appear without a role d'equipage while the United States are at peace, neither could it appear without the ſame evidence were the United States parties to the war.

About four years of the preſent war had alſo elapſed before this conſtruction of the treaty, at the ſame time ſo wonderful and ſo ruinous, had diſcloſed itſelf. In the courſe of that time the ports of France were filled with the veſſels of the United States. Very many of them ſailed under contracts for the government itſelf by its miniſter in Philadelphia. No one of them poſſeſſed a role d'equipage; no one of them was conſidered on that account as being liable to condemnation. Indeed, in ſome inſtances, veſſels have been captured and diſcharged although this paper was not among thoſe belonging to the ſhip.

Such a long courſe of practice appears to have evidenced unequivocally the ſenſe of France on this ſubject.

It is too apparent to be queſtioned for a moment, that on the part of the United States no ſuſpicion had ever been entained that ſuch a paper could have been required. A role d'equipage could have been obtained with as much facility as that paſſport for which the treaty ſtipulates. Could it have been imagined that American veſſels incurred the poſſible hazard of being retarded only one day in a voyage for want of ſuch paper, it would in every inſtance have been ſupplied. No veſſel would have ſailed without it.

Your own mind, Citizen Miniſter, will ſuggeſt to you, with irreſiſtable force, the extreme hardſhip of thus putting a new conſtruction on a long exiſting contract, or of giving a new and unexpected extenſion to ancient municipal regulations, and of condemning thereby veſſels taken on the high ſeas for want of a paper not known to be required, when they ſailed out of port. If a role d'equipage was really conſidered by France as neceſſary evidence of any fact, the eſtabliſhment of which was deemed eſſential, common uſage and thoſe plain principles of juſtice which all nations ſhould reſpect, indiſpenſably require that the regulation ſhould firſt be made known to a neutral and friendly nation by other means than by the capture and confiſcation of its property. If this meaſure had been announced to the government of the United States, before it had been put in practice, and American veſſels had ſailed without a role d'equipage they would have taken upon themſelves the hazard of ſuch a procedure. But in a moment, when the ocean is covered with peaceful merchantmen, purſuing a juſt and lawful commerce, to bring into ſudden operation a meaſure which had for ſo many years ſlept unheard of, and by the force of this regulation to confiſcate property which had been truſted to the ſeas, under the faith of ſolemn and exiſting treaties, and without a conjecture that this, more than any other formula, would have been required, is to impoſe on unoffending individuals ruin from which no wiſe precautions, no human foreſight could poſſibly have protected them.

On this ſubject then the underſigned appeal with confidence to the juſtice and equity of the French government.

But could it be conceded for a moment that the

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Mr Davis is requested to give the following a place in his paper, and oblige A. CUSTOMER.

From the New-York Commercial Advertiser.

THE STAND.

To eſtimate properly the conduct of revolutionary France towards the United States, the circumſtances, which have reciprocally taken place muſt be viewed together: it is a WHOLE, not a PART which is to be contemplated. A rapid ſummary, never herleſs, of the moſt material is all that can be preſented.

Not only the unanimous good wiſhes of the citizens of this country, ſpontaneouſly attached themſelves to the revolution of France in its firſt ſtages, but no ſooner was the change from Monarchy to a republic officially announced than our government, confulting the principles of our own revolution, and the wiſhes of our citizens, haſtened to acknowledge the new order of things. This was done to the laſt miniſter ſent by Louis the XVIth, before the arrival of the firſt envoy from the Republic, GENET afterwards came—his reception by the government was cordial—by the people enthuſiaſtic.

The government did not merely receive the miniſter of the republic, in fact, and defer the obligation of treaties till the conteſt concerning its eſtabliſhment had been terminated by ſucceſs; but giving the utmoſt latitude to the maxim that real treaties bind nations notwithſtanding revolutions of government, ours did not heſitate to admit the immediate operation of the antecedent treaties between the two countries, tho the revolution could not be regarded as yet fully accompliſhed—though a warrant for a contrary policy might have been found in the conduct of France herſelf—and though the treaties contained ſeveral ſtipulations which gave to her important preferences relative to war, and which were likely to give umbrage to the powers oppoſed againſt her.

In acknowledging the Republic, the United States preceded every other nation. It was not till a long time after, that any of the neutral powers followed the example. Had prudence been excluſively conſulted, our government might not have done all that it did at this juncture, when the caſe was very nearly *Europe* in arms againſt *France*.

But good faith and a regard to conſiſtency of principles, prevailed over the ſenſe of danger. It was reſolved to encounter it; qualifying the ſtep by the manifeſtation of a diſpoſition to obſerve a ſincere neutrality, as far as ſhould conſiſt with the ſtipulations of treaty. Hence the proclamation of neutrality.

It ought to have no ſmall merit in the eyes of France, that at ſo critical a period of her affairs we were willing to run riſks ſo imminent. The fact is, that it had nearly implicated us in the war on her ſide at a juncture when all calculations were againſt her, and when it was certain ſhe could have afforded us no protection or aſſiſtance.

What was the return? *Genet* came with neutrality on his lips, but war in his heart. The inſtructions publiſhed by himſelf, and his practice upon them, demonſtrate that it was the premeditated plan to involve us in the conteſt, not by a candid appeal to the judgment, friendſhip, or intereſt of our country, but by alluring the avarice of bad citizens into acts of predatory hoſtility, by inſtituting within our territory, military expeditions againſt nations with whom we were at peace. And when it was found that our Executive would not connive at this inſidious plan, bold attempts were made to create a ſchiſm between the people and the government, and conſequently to ſow the ſeeds of civil diſcord, inſurrection and revolution. Thus began the Republic.

It is true that the *Girondiſt* faction having been ſubverted by that of Robeſpierre, our complaint of the agent of the former was attended with ſucceſs. The ſpirit of vengeance came in aid of the juſtice of our demand. The offending miniſter was recalled with diſgrace. But Robeſpierre did not fail in a public ſpeech to give a gentle hint of delinquency in the United States, ſufficiently indicating that the *authors* and the *manner* were more in fault, in his opinion, than the thing. It was not then expedient to quarrel with us. There was ſtill a hope that a courſe of things, or more dexterous management might embark us in the war as an auxiliary to France.

The treaties were made by us the criterion of our duty; but as they did not require us to go to war, as France did never even pretend this to be the caſe, liſtening to the ſuggeſtions not only of intereſt but of ſafety, we reſolved to endeavour to preſerve peace—But we were equally reſolved to fulfil our real obligations in every reſpect. We ſaw without murmur our property ſeized in belligerent veſſels; we allowed to French ſhips of war and privateers all the peculiar excluſive privileges in our ports to which they were entitled by our treaties upon fair conſtruction—*upon a conſtruction fully concurred in by the* POLITICAL LEADERS† *of the adherents to France*—we went further, and graciouſly ſuffered her to ſell her prizes in our country, in contravention perhaps of the true principles of neutrality—we paid to her new government the debt contracted by us with the old, not only as faſt as it became due, but by an anticipation which did not give pleaſure to her enemies. While our government was faithful, our citizens were zealous. Not content with good wiſhes, they adventured their property in the furniſhing of ſupplies to an extent that ſhewed in many caſes the co-operation of zeal with intereſt. Our country, our merchants and our ſhips, in the gloomy periods of her revolution, have been the organs of ſuccours to France to a degree which gives us an undoubted title to the character of very uſeful friends.

Reverſe the medal. France, from the beginning, has violated eſſential points in the treaties between the two countries. The firſt formal *unequivocal* act by either of the belligerent parties, interfering with the rule that "free ſhips make free goods," was a decree of the French Convention. This violation has been perſiſted in, and ſucceſſive violations added till they amount to a general war on our commerce.

Firſt, the Plea of neceſſity repelled our feeble and modeſt complaints of infractions. Next the plea of delinquencies on our part was called in aid of the depredations which it was found convenient to practice upon our trade. Our refuſal to accord privileges not granted by our treaties but claimed by miſconſtructions deſtitute even of plauſibility, privileges which would have put us at once in a ſtate of war with the enemies of France, the reciprocal application to them of principles originally eſtabliſhed againſt their remonſtrances in favor of France‡—occaſioned embarraſſments to her privateers, ariſing from the eſtabliſhed forms of our courts, and the neceſſity of vigilance to fruſtrate her efforts to entangle us againſt our will in the war—delays in giving relief in a few inſtances rendered unavoidable by the nature of our government—and the great extent of our territory—theſe, were ſo many topics of bitter accuſation againſt our government and of inſult as rude as it was unmerited.

Our Citizens in judging whether the accuſation was captious or well founded, ought to bear in mind that moſt of the tranſactions on which it was predicated happened under the adminiſtration of JEFFERSON and RANDOLPH, and as it is well aſcertained, with their full aſſent and co operation.—They will not readily ſuppoſe that theſe VERY CUNNING MEN were the dupes of colleagues actuated by ill will towards France; but they will diſcover in this union of opinion among men of very oppoſite principles, a ſtrong probability that our government acted with propriety and that the diſſatisfaction of France, if more than a color was unreaſonable.

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† Mr. Jefferſon.

‡ This was the caſe as to the horſes procured by the Britiſh in Virginia. France had before freely procured military ſupplies in our country. The Britiſh miniſter had remonſtrated. The reply adhered to, was, that belligerent powers had a right to procure ſupplies in a neutral country.

Hitherto the progreſs no leſs than the origin of our controverſy with France exhibits plain marks of a diſpoſition on her part to diſregard thoſe proviſions in the treaties which it was our intereſt ſhould be obſerved by her, to exact from us a ſcrupulous performance of our engagements and even the extenſion of them beyond their true import—to embroil us with her enemies contrary to our inclination and intereſt, and without even the allegation of a claim upon our faith—to make unreaſonable demands upon us the grounds of complaints againſt us and exceuſes to violate our property and rights, to divide our nation and to diſturb our government.

Many of the moſt determined advocates of France among us appear latterly to admit that previous to the treaty with Great Britain the complaints of France againſt the United States were frivilous, thoſe, of the United States againſt France real and ſerious. But the treaty with Great-Britain, it is affirmed, has changed the ground. This it is ſaid has given juſt cauſe of diſcontent to France—this has brought us to the verge of war with our firſt ally and beſt friend—to this fatal inſtrument are we indebted for the evils we feel and the ſtill greater which impend over our heads.

Theſe ſuggeſtions are without the ſhadow of foundation. They prove the infatuated devotion to a foreign power of thoſe who invented them and the eaſy credulity of thoſe with whom they have obtained currency. The evidence of a previous diſpoſition in France, to complain without a cauſe and to injure without provocation is a ſufficient comment upon the reſentment ſhe profeſſes againſt the treaty. The partiality or indulgence with which the ill treatment received from her prior to that event was viewed by her decided partizans, is a proof of the facility with which they credit her pretences and palliate her aggreſſions.

The moſt ſignificant of the charges againſt the treaty as it reſpects France, are that it abandoned the rule of free ſhips making free goods—that it extended unduly the liſt of contraband articles, and gave colour to the claim of a right to ſubject proviſions to ſeizure—that a treaty of amity with the enemy of France in the midſt of a war was a mark of preference to that enemy and of ill will to her.

The replies which have been given to theſe charges are concluſive.

As to the firſt point—the ſtipulation of two powers to obſerve between themſelves a particular rule in their reſpective wars, a rule too, innovating upon the general law of nations can on no known or reaſonable principle of interpretation be conſtrued to intend that they will inſiſt upon that rule with all other nations and will make no treaty with any however beneficial in other reſpects which does not comprehend it—To tie up the will of a nation and its power of providing for its own intereſts to ſo immenſe an extent required a ſtipulation in poſitive terms—In vain ſhall we ſeek in the treaty for ſuch a ſtipulation or its equivalent—there is not even a ſingle expreſſion to imply it. The idea is conſequently no leſs ridiculous than it is novel—The cotemporary proceedings legiſlative and judiciary of our government ſhew that it was not ſo underſtood in this country. Congreſs even declined to become a formal party to the armed neutrality, of which it was the baſis; unwilling to be pledged for the coercive maintenance of a principle which they were only diſpoſed to promote by particular facts. It is equally futile to ſeek to derive the obligation of the United States to adhere to this rule from the ſuppoſition of a change in the law of nations by the force of that league. Neither theory nor practice warrants the attributing ſo important an effect to a military aſſociation ſpringing up in the war and ending with it; not having had the univerſal conſent of nations nor a courſe of long practice to give it a ſanction.

Were it neceſſary to reſort to an auxiliary argument, it might be ſaid with concluſive force that France, having before our treaty with Great Britain violated in practice the rule in queſtion, abſolved us from all obligation to obſerve it if any did previouſly exiſt.

As to the ſecond point—It has been repeatedly demonſtrated that the enumeration of contraband in the treaty with Great Britain is agreeable to the *general* law of nations. But this is a matter from its nature liable to vary according to relative ſituation, and to be variouſly modified not only between different nations, but between one nation and different nations. Thus in our treaty with Great Britain ſome articles are enumerated which are omitted in that with France; in that with France, ſome articles are inſerted which are omitted in that with Britain. But it is perhaps the firſt time that a diverſity of this ſort has been deemed a ground of umbrage to a third party.

With regard to proviſions—the treaty only decides that where *by the law of nations* they are ſubject to ſeizure they are to be paid for. It does not define or admit any new caſe. As to its giving color to abuſe in this reſpect, this if true would amount to nothing. For till ſome abuſe had actually happened and been tolerated to the prejudice of France, there was no cauſe of complaint. The poſſibility of abuſe from a doubtful conſtruction of a treaty between two powers is no ſubject of offence to a third. It is the fact which muſt govern. According to this indiſputable criterion, France has had no cauſe to complain on this account; for ſince the ratification of the treaty no inſtance of the ſeizure of proviſions has occurred, and it is known that our government proteſted againſt ſuch a conſtruction.

Further, the treaty has made no change whatever in the actual antecedent ſtate of things to the diſadvantage of France.

Great Britain had, before the treaty, with the ſanction of our government, acted upon the principles as to free ſhips making free goods, and generally as to the affair of contraband, which the treaty recognizes. Nor was that ſanction merely tacit but explicit and direct. It was even diplomatically communicated to the agents of France. If there was any thing wrong therefore in this matter, it was chargeable, not upon the treaty, but upon the prior meaſures of the government, which had left theſe points mere points of form in the treaty.

The remaining charge againſt that inſtrument involves a ſpecies of political metaphyſics. Neither the theory of writers nor the hiſtory of nations will bear out the poſition that a treaty of amity, between a neutral ſtate and one belligerent party not granting either ſuccors or new privileges relative to war, not derogatory from any obligation of the neutral ſtate to the other belligerent party, is a cauſe of umbrage to the latter. There can be no reaſon why a neutral power ſhould not ſettle differences or adjuſt a plan of intercourſe beneficial to itſelf with another power becauſe this laſt happens to be at a war with a third. All this muſt be a mere queſtion of courteſy; and might be incourteous or otherwiſe according to circumſtances, but never a ground of quarrel. If there even might have been want of courteſy in the United States to have entered into a treaty of this ſort with the enemy of France, had they volunteer'd it without cogent motives—there could be none in the particular ſituation. They were led to the treaty by pre-exiſting differences which had nearly ripened to a rupture, and the amicable ſettlement of which affected very important intereſts. No favorable conjuncture for this ſettlement was to be loſt. The ſettlement, by the uſual formulas in ſuch caſes, would amount to a treaty of amity.

Thus it is evident that the treaty like all the reſt, has been a mere pretence for ill treatment. But admitting that this was not the caſe, that it really afforded ſome cauſe of diſpleaſure, was this of a nature to admit of no atonement, or of none ſhort of the humiliation of our country?

If the contrary muſt be conceded, it is certain that our government has done all that was poſſible towards reconciliation, and enough to have ſatisfied any reaſonable or juſt government.

France after the treaty proceeded to inflict ſtill deeper wounds upon our commerce. She has endeavored to intercept and deſtroy it with all the ports of her enemies. Nor was this the worſt. The ſpoliation has frequently attended our trade with her own dominions attended with unparalleled circumſtances of rapacity and violence.

The diplomatic repreſentative of the French government to the United States, was ordered to deliver to our government, a moſt inſulting manifeſto and then to withdraw.

Yet our government; notwithſtanding this accumulation of wrongs, after knowing that it had been repeatedly outraged in the perſon of one miniſter, condeſcended to ſend another ſpecially charged to endeavor to conciliate. This miniſter was known to unite fidelity to his country with principles friendly to France and her revolution. It was hoped that the latter would make him acceptable, and that he would be able by amicable explanations and overtures to obviate miſunderſtanding and reſtore harmony. He was not received.

Though it was very problematical whether the honor of the United States after this permitted a further advance; yet the government, anxious, if poſſible, to preſerve peace, concluded to make another and more ſolemn experiment. A new miſſion, confided to three extraordinary miniſters, took place. They were all three in different degrees, men well affected to France and her revolution. They were all men of high reſpectability, and among the pureſt characters of our country. Their powers and inſtructions were ſo ample as to have extorted from the moſt determined oppoſers of the government in the two houſes of Congreſs, a reluctant approbation in this inſtance of the Preſident's conduct.

In contempt of eſtabliſhed uſage and of the reſpect due to us as an independent people, with the deliberate deſign of humbling and mortifying our government, theſe ſpecial and extraordinary miniſters have been refuſed to be received. Admitting all the charges brought againſt us by France to be well founded, ſtill miniſters of that deſcription ought on every principle to have been accredited and conferred with, till it was aſcertained that they were not ready to do as much as was expected. Not to purſue this courſe was to deny us the rank of an independent nation; it was to treat us as Great-Britain did while we were yet contending with her for this character.

Inſtead of this, informal agents, probably panders and miſtreſſes, are appointed to intrigue with our envoys. Theſe attending only to the earneſt wiſh of their conſtituents for peace ſtoop to the conference. What is the miſhapen reſult?

MONEY, MONEY, is the burthen of the diſcordant ſong of theſe foul birds of prey. Great indignation is at firſt profeſſed againſt expreſſions in the Preſident's ſpeech of May laſt. The Reparation of a diſavowal is abſolutely due to the honor of the directory and of the republic; but it turns out that there is a practicable ſubſtitute more valuable. The honor of both being a marketable commodity—is ready to be commuted for gold.

A douceur of 50.000 pounds ſterling for the ſpecial benefit of the directory was to pave the way. Inſtead of reparation for the ſpoliations on our commerce exceeding twenty millions of dollars, a loan equal to the amount of them is to be made by us to the French government. Then perhaps a mode might be ſettled for the liquidation of the claims of our merchants to be compenſated at ſome future period. The depredations nevertheleſs were to continue till the treaty ſhould be concluded, which from the diſtance between the two countries muſt at all events take a great length of time, and might be procraſtinated indefinitely at the pleaſure of the directory.

In addition to all this we muſt purchaſe of the directory at par Dutch inſcriptions to the amount of thirty millions of florins, and look to the ability of the Batavian republic to redeem them. Already are theſe aſſignats depreciated to half their nominal value, and in all probability will come to nothing; ſerving merely as a flimſy veil to the extortion of a further and immenſe contribution.

"Money, a great deal of money!" is the cry from the firſt to the laſt; and our commiſſioners are aſſured that without this they may ſtay in Paris ſix months without advancing a ſtep. To enforce the argument they are reminded of the fate of Venice.

At ſo hideous a compound of corruption and extortion at demands ſo exorbitant and degrading, there is not a ſpark of virtuous indignation in an American breaſt, which will not kindle into a flame. And yet there are men—could it have been believed? there are men to whom this country gave birth—vile and degenerate enough to run about the ſtreets to contradict, to palliate, to juſtify, to preach the expediency of compliance. Such men merit all the deteſtation of all their fellow citizens; and there is no doubt that with time and opportunity they will merit much more from the offended juſtice of the laws.

TITUS MANLIUS.

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"Il faut de l'argent—il faut beaup de l'argent."

ADDRESS

Of the Militia Officers of Newcaſtle county, ſtate of Delaware, convened at Chriſtiana Bridge on the firſt of this month.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

A number of the officers of the militia of Newcaſtle county, in the ſtate of Delaware, impreſſed with the importance of the preſent criſis of public affairs, to the happineſs and independence of the United States; and conceiving that the unjuſt and imperious conduct of the republic of France towards America, has been dictated in a great meaſure by the unfounded miſrepreſentations of her own agents, and ſome miſguided and deluded citizens of this country, that the people and the government were diviſided and oppoſed to each other; we feel ourſelves conſtrained by every conſideration of duty to the conſtituted authorities, to ourſelves and to our country to repel the inſinuation which thus attempts to diſhonor the American character.

Appreciating with due eſtimation, the advantages of neutrality and the bleſſings of peace, we have beheld with pleaſure and entire ſatisfaction your earneſt and repeated endeavors, and thoſe of your predeceſſor, to preſerve this deſirable poſition; and we have ſeen with equal regret, that the anxious advances of our government towards a reſtoration of harmony with the French republic, have been received with contemptuous diſregard on their part; and at the moment when negociation ought to have produced redreſs, aggreſſion has been increaſed, and further depredations authorized, under the vain hope of inducing a compliance with the wretched demands of avarice and corruption.

Little does France underſtand the American character in ſuppoſing we are to be frightened into mean compliance, by holding up to our view her dependent allies, a degraded Genoa, or a diſmembered Venice. The picture raiſes juſt indignation in the minds of freemen, and will ſtimulate their exertions to avoid a ſimilar fate.

With pain do we diſcover in the infamy of the French government, pretending to be a free republic, and founded upon the rights of man, the evidence of an active corruption that would degrade the moſt profligate tyranny. Fortunate for America! the ocean ſeparates her from this ſeat of contagion, whoſe influence is deſtructive of all morals; and long may ſhe enjoy under your prudent and wiſe adminiſtration, that happineſs and proſperity which is the reward of public virtue and integrity.

Be aſſured, Sir, of our grateful approbation of the conduct heretofore purſued by you, to preſerve peace and friendſhip with foreign powers; and our confidence in the wiſdom and patriotiſm of every branch of the government; and we pledge ourſelves as citizens and ſoldiers, firmly to ſupport thoſe meaſures which may hereafter be thought neceſſary to ſecure the conſtitution, freedom and independence of the United States.

Signed in behalf of the officers,

GUNNING BEDFORD, Brig Gen.

Chriſtiana Bridge, May 1.

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The Preſident's Anſwer.

To the Officers of the Militia of Newcaſtle County, in the State of Delaware

Gentlemen,

Your addreſs, which has been repreſented to me in your behalf, by your ſenators and repreſentatives in Congreſs, expreſſes ſentiments and reſolutions, well becoming the characters of officers of the militia, the object of whoſe inſtitution is, the maintenance and ſecurity of the conſtitution, freedom and iedependence of their country.

The unjuſt and imperious conduct of a majority of the French directory towards America, may have been dictated by miſrepreſentations of their own agents and of deluded Americans; but there is too much reaſon to believe that an unbounded ambition for univerſal empire, and an inſatiable avarice of money, united with the delirium of victory, and a ſanguine confidence that they are at leaſt for a time the maſters of the world, have dictated their inſufferable arrogance, trampling alike on their own conſtitution, and the rights of their people; on the law of nations, and the faith of treaties.

It is indeed an awful conſideration, that at a time when a great part of Europe appears diſpoſed to adopt republican governments, a corruption ſhould appear, which never was exhibited before, by the moſt abſolute monarchies, or compleateſt deſpotiſms.

It ſhould ſeem that fraud and force, were to be the only meaſure of right and wrong: This ſyſtem muſt ſoon be changed, or ſcience, arts, virtue, liberty, and peace muſt be baniſhed, and a ſavage barbarity be ſubſtituted in their places.

America is of too much importance to the world, for the purpoſes of wealth and power, to leave her the ſmalleſt hope of eſcaping, without her own determined exertions, the contagion of the general diſtemper.

Your approbation and kind wiſhes are received with gratitude, and returned with ſincerity.

JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, May 5, 1798.

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IN a few weeks I ſhall take my departure for the Weſtern country, where I am going to ſurvey, ſettle, and adjuſt ſome diſputed Land claims, for Sir Peyton Skipwith; and as the buſineſs will oblige me to continue ſome time in that country. I ſhall be thankful to any perſon who has Lands to ſurvey, Rights to ſettle, Sales to make, or Money to collect, for their buſineſs; I have been twice intruſted with buſineſs of importance in that country, and have had the good fortune to acquit myſelf in both inſtances ſo much to the ſatisfaction of my employer as to receive at my return an additional bounty for my ſervices. I ſhall be at Daniel Dodſon's in Peterſburgh from the 3d to the 6th of July; at the ſign of the Riſing-Sun (Fleitcher's Taverren) in Richmond from the 7th to the 10th, and in Frederickſburg (inquire at the Coffee-Houſe) from the 23d to the 26th of the ſame month, ready to receive the commands of all and every perſon who may chooſe to confide in me to tranſact their buſineſs, which ſhall be actively and ſtrictly attended to

JOHN HILL.

Virginia, May 20, 1798.

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I do hereby certify that Mr John Hill has been ſeveral years in my ſervice, and has been variouſly employed, and in every inſtance acquitted himſelf with induſtry, activity and integrity; he has not only had the intire management of the ſales of the produce of my eſtate, but I intruſted him in ſurveying, in which branch of buſineſs he is particularly accurate and ready, laying off and ſelling as his judgment directed, a conſiderable body of land belonging to me in the ſtate of Kentuckey, the ſales he made, the ſum of money he collected, and the correctneſs of his accounts, has proved to me that few men are more truſt worth than he is; I therefore beg leave to recommend him to all perſons who have buſineſs in the Weſtern Country, whither he is going at my inſtance to clear up, and ſettle ſome interferences to lands I yet hold in that territory.

PEYTON SKIPWITH.

ALL perſons having any claims againſt the Eſtate of William Hare, dec. late of the county of King and Queen, are deſired to bring them forward, properly authenticated, to Majr. William Courtney, of the ſaid county, who is authoriſed to ſettle all accounts relative to the ſaid eſtate. All thoſe who are indebted to the ſaid eſtate, are earneſtly requeſted to make immediate payment to Majr. William Courtney.

WILLIAM B. HARE, Ex'or.

Amherſt County, May 30. 1798. (2l.)

Richmond, June 5.

The Citizens of Richmond, being met at the Capitol, on Friday the 1st day of June, 1798, in purſuance of an invitation from the Common Hall, and having appointed Doctor M'CLURG, Chairman, and SAMUEL COLEMAN, Secretary, proceeded to conſider the preſent *awful criſis of AMERICAN AFFAIRS.*

A queſtion was propoſed by Major William Duval, ſeconded and diſcuſſed—whether foreigners, not naturalized, ſhould be permitted to vote; and it was determined that they ſhould not.

Mr. Waſhington then opened the buſineſs of the meeting, by introducing a motion, after ſome obſervations relative to our ſituation with reſpect to France, to adopt an ADDRESS to the Preſident of the United States, which he read and the motion was ſeconded. After ſome debate, a motion was made by Mr. Stewart and ſeconded, that the meeting come to the following reſolution:

"That the invitation to this meeting, being given and addreſſed to the citizens of Richmond "alone, none but ſuch as actually reſide within the "limits of the city, ought to vote."

Although conſiderable debate upon this reſolution took place, no deciſion was had on the queſtion for its adoption; and Doctor Fouſhee was permitted to introduce certain reſolutions, which he read and moved to have adopted, and was ſeconded by Mr. Nicholas.

After a lengthy debate, which continued until after ſeven o'clock in the evening, upon a queſtion to agree to the addreſs, a diviſion was called for, thoſe in favor of the addreſs, to be on the right hand—thoſe in favor of the reſolutions, on the left. The Chairman declared, that upon a view, the majority was on the right hand. This was diſputed, however, and both ſides proceeded to ſign the paper they approved. It was declared, on commencing the ſignature of the addreſs, that none but Citizens of Richmond were to ſign it. The ſame thing was ſtipulated by Mr Brooke, with reſpect to the Reſolutions. It was alſo underſtood, with the concurrence of that gentleman, that there ſhould be an interchange of the two papers, in order to verify the fact, on which ſide was the majority of the citizens of Richmond.

JAMES M'CLURG, Chairman.
SAM. COLEMAN, Sec'y.

The following is the ADDRESS which was preſented by Mr. Waſhington at the Meeting on Friday laſt, and which has been ſubſcribed to by upwards of 300 inhabitants of this city, and forwarded by this day's mail to the Preſident:

To the Preſident of the United States.

SIR,

IF we are late in declaring our confidence in a government, eſtabliſhed by the deliberate will of the people, and directed continually by their influence, in every department of which they act, by their conſtitutional repreſentatives, it is becauſe we thot it unneceſſary. To doubt the confidence of the American people in their government, might happen to foreigners, who, in their ſearch after a free and equal conſtitution, have deviated perhaps from the track; but to an American mind, the idea is pregnant with abſurdity. However men, with honeſt views, may differ about the means of attaining certain political objects, when they are called to act together upon the footing of equality, in a genuine republic, it is a maxim, ſacred and fundamental, that the will of the majority ſhall be the will of the whole—without this there can be neither union nor force; our infant government can never reach maturity, but muſt follow the fate of thoſe European republics, which have ſucceſſively yielded to the conquering influence of France. In this moment of alarm, when a powerful foreign nation perſiſts in the invaſion of our rights, and returns all our efforts for conciliation and peace, with contempt, and aggravated injuries, what reſourſe have we, under heaven, but in that government which was formed by the American people for their common defence and protection? We await its decitions with anxiety, for the criſis is awful, but with a ſteady reliance on their wiſdom, moderation, and firmneſs—and we are determined at every hazard to ſupport them.

Whatever may be the conſequences, it is conſoling to the humanity, and grateful to the honeſt pride of every American, that they are not imputable to his government. You, Sir, will enjoy the reflection, that your ſincere ſolicitude for the preſervation of peace, was only limited by a zealous attachment to our national independence, the object of your early and inceſſant labors, to which were devoted the beſt days of your valuable life.

* In Mr. Dixon's paper of yeſterday, have been inſerted in this place the words "by ſome," which were not in the ſtatement incloſed to Mr. Dixon, having been ſtruck out before my ſignature.

JAMES M'CLURG.

MR. DAVIS,

I HAVE ſeen the reſolutions offered by Dr. Fouſhee for ſignature in oppoſition to the addreſs on Friday, at the Capitol, and find 273 names to them—I have not ſeen the addreſs ſince it was ſigned, but underſtand it has not ſo many—it is probable ſome improper ſignatures may have been made to both papers, as is uſual on ſuch occaſions.

your's,
A CUSTOMER.

June 4, '98.

The following Reſolutions offered by Doctor Fouſhee, on Friday laſt.

1.—*Reſolved*, That it is not only the right, but the certain duty of all citizens of every free government, to meet, deliberate and expreſs their ſentiments on all important ſubjects, in which the general welfare of their common country may be concerned.

2.—*Reſolved*, That war, next to the loſs of liberty, is the moſt calamitous ſtate into which a nation can be plunged, and that all other conſiderations, are but ſecondary to that which deſolates the land, exhauſts the property, endangers the liberty, and jeopardizes the lives of the people at large.

3.—*Reſolved*, That defenſive war alone, is juſtifiable, and that if an invaſion or uſurpation ſhall take place, we will be ready with our fortunes and our lives, to ſupport the freedom of our country, againſt all invaders or oppreſſors.

4.—*Reſolved*, That any meaſure leading to an offenſive war, ought to be avoided—and that the arming of veſſels and authorizing them to make captures, amount to a declaration of war.

5.—*Reſolved therefore*, That an attempt to force commerce by armament, will be unwiſe and impolitic; and at this juncture, probably ruinous, as it may throw us into the arms of Great-Britain, with whom we have important adjuſtments for paſt differences, as well as continued aggreſſions, yet to make

6.—*Reſolved*, That every effort, tranſcending internal regulations of the militia, and the fortification of our ports and harbors, is calculated to deſtroy our neutrality, endanger our peace, and hazard our liberty, by introducing ſtanding armies, impotent and expenſive navies, increaſing Executive influence, and loading us with permanent and oppreſſive taxes.

7.—*Reſolved*, That we ought ſtudiouſly to guard againſt foreign alliances, as they are calculated to draw us into the vortex of European politics and warfare.

8.—*Reſolved*, That the government ought to purſue no meaſures, which may prevent a friendly adjuſtment of the differences now exiſting between their United States, and the French Republic.

9.—*Reſolved*, That the foregoing reſolutions, be tranſmitted by the Chairman, to our fellow-citizen John Clopton, the Repreſentative of this diſtrict to be by him laid before Congreſs.

The following addreſs was delivered to the Preſident on the part of the Jurors attending the circuit court of the United States for the District of Maryland.

To the Preſident of the United States

SIR,

WE, the underſigned Jurors attending the Circuit Court of the United States for the diſtrict of Maryland, think it our duty to addreſs you on the alarming ſituation into which our public affairs have been brought by the unconciliating ſpirit, ambition and rapacity of thoſe who now govern the Republic of France.

At the firſt dawn of the revolution in that country, we fondly hoped that a new era was opening upon mankind, when liberty, juſtice and humanity would take the place of ſlavery, rapine and cruelty which had too long diſgraced the world. Allured by this deluſive phantom, many of us long excuſed the errors and apologiſed for the crimes of that ill-fated people.

But at length our eyes are opened, when we ſee them aiming deadly blows at the ſmall remains of republicaniſm in Europe, and menacing us alſo with deſtruction, the only people on earth who have ever ſhewn them ſincere friendſhip, and who have nothing to reproach ourſelves with, as to them, but too fond, too blind an attachment. On a calm reſpect of the conduct of your illuſtrious Predeceſſor, and a view of the meaſures which have been purſued during your adminiſtration with regard to that nation, we can perceive nothing which ought to have offended, nothing unattempted that could have averted the calamity with which we are threatened, unleſs we had choſen to have become their ally in a war foreign to our intereſts, and probably fatal to our independence.

Anxious as we always have been, and ſtill are, to avoid war, yet we are perſuaded that there is one evil greater and more dreadful, national degradation, the certain harbinger of ſlavery. Accept then, Sir, our aſſurances, as in ſome meaſure repreſenting our diſtrict, that you will find us animated with the ſpirit of freemen, and determined at all hazards to defend the rights and independence of our country, and if there be any of a different ſentiment, as hath been preſumptuouſly aſſerted, they will be found few indeed.

ANSWER.

Gentlemen,

I thank you for this addreſs—The French revolution was a phenomenon, ſo unuſual in the modern hiſtory of the world (although the changes of dynaſties were common in the great empires of antiquity) and held up to our view in the amiable light of reformation and regeneration, while its deformities were carefully concealed from the public in America, that it is not ſurprizing, that a new æra was thought by many to be opening upon mankind. *It is now apparent to all men, that ſlavery, rapine, and cruelty, have been augmented and multiplied, inſtead of being ſucceeded by liberty, juſtice and humanity.*

I rejoice that your eyes are at length opened; the deadly blows aimed at the ſmall remains of republicaniſm in Europe, and the menaces of deſtruction againſt us, who have nothing to reproach ourſelves with but too fond, too blind an attachment, cannot fail to alarm every candid mind.

The ſatisfaction you expreſs in the conduct of the Executive authority of this country towards France, is very acceptable. Many ſtrong indications have eſcaped, from time to time, for ſeveral years, that nothing would ſatisfy the French rulers, ſhort of our becoming their ally in a war, foreign to our intereſt, and fatal to our independence, by becoming tributary to their ambitious views of univerſal domination, by ſea and land, and to the rapacious avarice of influential individuals.

This national degradation, the certain harbinger of ſlavery, or rather ſlavery itſelf, is certainly an evil greater, and more dreadful than war.

Your determination, at all hazards, to defend the rights and independence of your country, ſhews you to be animated with the ſpirit of Freemen, and does you great honor. JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, May 18, 1798.

From the Norfolk Herald.

Tranſlated from the "Official Bulletin of St Domingo," of 14 Floreal (3d May 1798)

Copy of a letter written by the General of Diviſion, HEDOUVILLE, particular agent, of the Executive Directory at St. Domingo, to the Conſuls of the French Republic near the United States of America; dated at the Cape 13 Floreal, 6th year—2d May, 1798.

It is with ſurpriſe and pain, citizen, that I have read in the papers printed in the United States, following the meſſage addreſſed by the preſident, J. Adams to the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, the 3d April, 1791, a diſſertation (diatribe) attributed to the plenipotentiaries of the federal government, againſt the chiefs of the French government.

As I was at Paris at the time of theſe negociations, and as I had a knowledge of the propoſitions which have been made to the commiſſioners of the United States, by a perſon who ſaw them every day, I ought to contradict theſe ſcandalous imputations, the publicity of which may produce conſequences, contrary to the ſpirit of conciliation which animates the two nations.

It is not by projects of defamation that they ſhall arreſt the French government in its victorious career. It is not when he learns that the commiſſioners who have been ſent to reſtore harmony, and terminate the differences which have exiſted between the two governments, employed themſelves only in exaſperating their conſtituents againſt the chiefs of the republic, that the friends of peace can diſcover the accompliſhment of their hopes.

It is in my particular knowledge that the French government intended to demand from that of America, contributions in indemnity of the loſſes which have reſulted to France from the treaty of commerce with England, (a manifeſt violation of neutrality on the part of the United States) But theſe contributions were for the ſtate, and not for the members of government; and the men who have wiſhed to ſeize on this pretext to throw cenſure on the firſt magiſtrates of a great nation, diſcover the ſecret deſign of involving their citizens in a war, which muſt be deſtructive to them, to ſatisfy ſome particular reſentment, or perſonal views. It is not thus, if I am right, that miniſters of peace ſhould conduct themſelves.

What man of ſenſe, after the accuſations urged againſt W. X. Y. Z. by the plenipotentiaries of the United States, can admit the inſinuations directed againſt the members of the French government? What may be the reſult of them? Peace or War? —Such an intrigue could have had no other object than to render accommodation more and more difficult: it was, however to conciliate two nations, made to be friends, that the government of the United States ſent commiſſioners to France.

The commiſſioners of the federal government declare that W. X. Y. Z. had no powers. Suppoſing for a moment that W. X. Y. Z. were not imaginary beings, was it not the duty of meſſieurs, the commiſſioners to denounce them to the directory? Theſe unempowered individuals may as well have been agents of the cabinet of St. James's as of any other government, and had it not been as wiſe, in theſe circumſtances, before publiſhing a libel with ſo much eagerneſs, to have come to an explanation, which would have cleared up every thing.

When we ſincerely wiſh for peace, we do not lay hold of every means of creating injuries, and of producing abſurdities againſt the power with which we wiſh to maintain it. But when war is our deſire, we employ all means within our graſp to render it inevitable.

"Would you wiſh," ſays Machiavel, in his reflections on Titus Livius, chapt. 32. "would you "wiſh that a prince or a people loſe all deſire to "make peace, or to preſerve it? This is an infal"lible method, and of which the effects are ſure and "laſting; render them guilty of a crime, or of a "great injury towards the enemy being reconciled. "The fear of the puniſhment which they are ſo "ſenſible of having merited, will drive far from "them all thoughts of peace."

Twenty powers were coaleſced to annihilate France. France has vanquiſhed them all, and in giving them peace, ſhe has exacted from them ceſſions or contributions. The United States have broken their treaty with France. The violation of this treaty, which was the fruits of French blood, exhauſted in the eſtabliſhment of American independence; and of much money furniſhed to the Americans to ſupport their war, has cauſed incalculable prejudice to the republic. The republic now thought ſhe had the right of demanding reſtitution. The laws of nations and the examples of every age have ſerved as the baſis of the French government; and it is not when the Directory marches with a firm and aſſured ſtep to ſecure tranquility, when it is ſurrounded with the ſplendor of the Gods, that the bolts thrown by ſuch puniſh hands can hurt it.

I know enough of France to be able to aſſure you that the people of the United States have many friends there, even amongſt the chiefs of government: and that propoſals of accommodation, made in good faith, would not have been repuiſed. But when the negociators bear with them the ſpirit which dictated the diſpatches of the plenipotentiaries of the United States, we ought not to be aſtoniſhed that their miſſion proved abortive.

My intention in addreſſing to you theſe reflections, has only been to juſtify the French Directory. The enemies who provided for theſe glorious labors, which it has finiſhed have pronounced its ſufficient eulogium. I have wiſhed only to offer a new tribute of reſpect and acknowledgment which all Frenchmen owe to it, for the ſervices which it ceaſes not to render its country. (Signed)

T. HEDOUVILLE.

At a meeting of a number of the Mechanics, and other inhabitants of the town of Staunton, Virginia, on Saturday the 12th inſt. (Dr. Alexander Humphrys in the chair,) the following reſolutions expreſſive of their opinions were adopted:

Reſolved, That the inſtructions of the Preſident of the United States to our Envoys to the French Republic meet our warmeſt approbation, and that we have full confidence in the wiſdom and integrity of the executive and legiſlative departments of our government; that we feel a pleaſure in declaring that this confidence is increaſed from a view of their late exertions to reſtore harmony with the French Republic.

Reſolved, That this meeting have the utmoſt confidence, that thoſe who calculate on weakening the country, the executive or Legiſlature thereof, by intrigue and internal diſſention, will be diſappointed in theſe their criminal views, and that Americans will unite to a man in defence of a Government of their own adoption, and of their Sovereignty and independence as a nation.

Reſolved, That the chairman of this meeting do forward theſe our opinions to David Holmes, Eſq. our member in Congreſs. A HUMPHEYS.

SAMUEL CLARK, *Secretary.*

At a meeting of ſixteen members appointed by the Militia of Auguſta county, to expreſs their ſentiments agreeable to certain reſolutions which were read to them and approved of:

Reſolved, As the French nation places great confidence on diviſions amongſt our citizens, and the exiſtence of a party favourable to their views to force a compliance with their demands, that it is the duty of Americans to ſay, they will ſupport with energy their conſtituted authorities and the government of their choice.

Reſolved, That ſo far as comes within their knowledge they approve of the adminiſtration of government—and while they lament that every overture to effect a reconciliation with France has been rejected by the illiberal policy of that government, yet they feel the pride of independant Americans when they contemplate the wiſe and firm conduct of their Preſident.

Reſolved, That although they are ſenſible of the bleſſings of peace, yet their national independence is dear to them, for the preſervation of which they will chearfully concur in any meaſures which government may think proper to adopt.

Reſolved, That John Tate, Eſq. Chairman of this meeting, be requeſted forthwith to tranſmit a copy of theſe reſolutions to David Holmes, Eſq. their repreſentative in Congreſs, to lay the ſame before that body, and for publication in at leaſt two of the Philadelphia newſpapers.

JOHN TATE, Chirman.
JACOB SWOOPE, *Secretary.*

By Laſt Night's MAIL.

PARIS March 11

There has been a tumult at Rome, in which a number of the French loſt their lives; it was however ſoon queſtioned and a number of the ringleaders arreſted and puniſhed. A proclamation upon this occaſion was publiſhed to the people, in the following terms.

"Rumours were yeſterday circulated that diſcontents prevailed in the French army. The factious fanatics, murderers and robbers, came to a reſolution to take advantage of the moment; they began their treacherable practices by murdering French ſoldiers found alone, or in ſmall parties in different quarters of the city; they then collected in the quarter beyond the Tyber, and paraded with a fanatic at head, carrying the image of the Holy Virgin, to the Church of St. Peter, ſhouting "Live Maria," where inſtead of a religious ceremonial they cut to pieces the whole of the guard and forcibly took poſſeſſion of the bridge of Sixtus, and the neighboring avenues. If their plan had ſucceeded, a general plunder would have commenced in the Jews ſtreet, and afterwards extended throughout the city. But the villains knew not the ſpirit which inſpires French ſoldiers; they knew not that the firſt ſound of the drum haſtens them to their poſts, eſpecially when the welfare of a people whoſe happineſs only they have in view depended upon it. I was adviſed of the tumult in time. Large numbers had collected beyond the river. I placed myſelf at the head of the troops, and without loſing time marched againſt them. We were received with the fire of muſquetry, but republican bayonets ſoon bore them down. The gate near which the unfortunate Duphot was murdered, together with the bridge of Sextus, were taken by ſtorm, and peace is reſtored.

"Inhabitants of Rome fear nothing—the French with you happineſs, the proceedings of laſt night are a clear proof of it.

"VIAL, Commandant."

It was ſaid the diſturbances among the ſoldiary aroſe from the arrival of Maſſena, Berthier being preferred as a leader.

BASLE, March 10.

The French troops are in poſſeſſion of Lucerne, in the neighbourhood of ſolothurn, the women flood by their huſbands, and fought with ſcythes.

NOTICE is near by given that I do forwarn all perſons from harboring dealing or contracting of any debts with my wife Judath Doggett under the penalty of the law that my wife Judath Doggett hath alloped and Gone of from me and taken with hur ſeven peaces of bacon one barrel of corn one large ſtone pot of fat one doz of ſugar three pewter plates two knives and forkes two eathen tumblers and one glaſs doz one glaſs decanter one Iron pot one chamber pot one pair of new cotton cards one large cotton ſheat one large roſe blanket one table cloth three of my ſhurts onepare of flat Irons one punchbull and A parcil of picked cotton in a wallet a percil of ſpun cotton one new bible A peace of white linnen fore yeards and a half in the peace at three ſhillings and nine pence pr yard one white furd hat three yeard of callaco at fore ſhillings pr yeard one new pint baſon and a half Gallon Gug fooll and A great many more things two teagus to mention.

GEORGE DOGGETT.
Lancaſter County, May 26, 1798.

Verbatim from the original manuſcript.

PROPOSALS for digging and removing earth at the penitentiary houſe, will be received on the ninth day of this inſtant—The following works are to be done, for which ſeparate prices muſt be charged;—digging foundations and removing earth—one caſt digging and removing earth to the diſtance of 50 yards.

THOMAS CALLIS, Superintendant.
Richmond, June 3, 1798

FOR SALE

MY tract of LAND, in Cheſterfield County, five miles above the town of Manchester, between the Buckingham road and the River, containing 204½ acres, there is a commodious dwelling houſe, a kitchen, barn, and other convenient houſes, in good order, for the reception of a family. The Situation is high and healthy, abounding with excellent ſprings. Poſſeſſion may be had the 1 of Dec next, and priviledge of ſowing wheat at the uſual time. For further particulars apply to the ſubſcriber on the premiſes.

WILLIAM EDWARDS.
June 1ſt 1798. (3t)

THE partnerſhip of Willm Siſſon & Co. of this place, will diſſolve, by mutual conſent, on the 1ſt. of July next. All thoſe indebted to that concern, will ſee the neceſſity for calling at their ſtore to ſettle their accounts in a ſatisfactory manner, with their agent Mr. Spencer D. Norvel, who will attend for that purpoſe, as well as to ſatisfy the claims againſt them.

THOMAS THOMPSON.
W. SISSON.
Rocky Mills, 23d May 1798. (7 J)

PRESQ'ISLE ESTATE

THIS valuable Farm, and deſirable reſidence, is again offered for ſale; and without reducing its price, it is hoped the terms will be acceptable to any perſon poſſeſſing a large number of ſlaves; with which *indiligible* property, full payment may be made, after the rate of two hundred dollars each.

Having removed to this city as a permanent reſidence, I ſhould wiſh to receive part payment in a ſmall quantity of good land near to it: or, if more agreeable to a purchaſer, the whole may be paid in any ſtocks of the United States.—Poſſeſſing the moſt ſecure and perfect title, the ſame ſhall be tranſferred and warranted by

D. M. RANDOLPH.
Richmond, May 28th, 1798.

continued from first page.

Executive Directory might rightfully modify the treaty of France with the United States by that of the United States with Britain & might rightfully require a roled equipage in order to establish the neutrality of a vessel, for want of which the vessel might be confiscated, yet, the cargo being proved to be neutral ought to be safe

According to the law of nations, the goods of an enemy found on board the ship of a friend are liable to capture, and the goods of a friend found on board the ship of an enemy are safe. The United States and France have consented to change this rule as between themselves. They have agreed, that the goods of an enemy found on board the vessels of either shall be safe, and that the goods of either found on board the vessel of an enemy shall be liable to capture. The one part of this rule is in consequence of and dependent on the other. The one part can not on any principle of justice be abandoned while the other is maintained.

In their treaty with England the United States retain unchanged the principle of the law of nations. If France modifies her treaty in this respect by that of England, she ought to take the principle intire. If in conformity to the treaty between the United States and England, France claims the right of taking enemies property found on board an American ship, then, in conformity with their treaty also, France ought to spare American property found on board an enemy's ship. If, therefore, this extraordinary position could be maintained, that an American ship without a role d'equipage becomes the ship of an enemy, still the cargo, being proved to be the property of a friend, ought, on the principle of modifying the treaty between the two nations by that with England, to have been restored to the owners.

The result of these regulations has been the most extensive and universal devastation of the American commerce. Not only vessels b und to and from the enemies of France, but vessels bound to and from her allies, and to and from her own ports, have been seized and confiscated.

The inevitable consequence has been, that direct commerce between the two nations, is almost annihilated, and that the property of American citizens has been taken to a much larger amount than would have been possible in a state of actual war.

Yet the Government of the United States, wishing, if possible to avoid even defensive measures, has sought assiduously and unremittingly, though hitherto without success, for such peaceful and amicable explanations as might do away existing animosities and restore between the two republics that harmony which it so truly desires.

America has accustomed herself to perceive in France only the ally and the friend. Consulting the feelings of her own bosom, she has believed that between republics an elevated and refined friendship could exist, and that free nations were capable of maintaining for each other a real and permanent affection. If this pleasing theory, erected with so much care and viewed with so much delight, has been impaired by experience, yet the hope continues to be cherished that this circumstance does not necessarily involve the opposite extreme. It is believed that there exists no sufficient cause for solid and permanent enmity between France and the United States—but that on the contrary the interests of both would be promoted by that friendly intercourse, which a reciprocal observance of the great and immutable principles of justice would certainly establish and can alone preserve. Under this impression America resists the opinion that the present state of things has grown out of a digested system to which France designs to adhere. She wishes and she endeavors to persuade herself that temporary causes, which too often produce effects a sound and just policy must reprobate, connected with a misconstruction of the conduct of her Government, as well as of the motives on which it has acted, may have occasioned those very serious aggressions of which she complains. She recedes therefore, even under the pressure of these aggressions, slowly and with difficulty from the attachments she has formed. So intertwined with every ligament of her heart have been the cords of affection which bound her to France, that only repeated and continual acts of hostility can tear them asunder.

The government of the United States, therefore, still searches the means of terminating peacefully, and in a manner which ought to be mutually satisfactory, the calamities of the moment, and of averting the still greater calamities which may be reserved for the future. Not even the discouraging and unusual events which had preceded the present effort to negociate, could deter that government from repeating its endeavors for the preservation of amity and peace. Three citizens of the United States have been deputed as envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary to the French Republic. Their instructions authorize and direct them to review the existing treaties between the two nations, and to remove by all proper means, the inequalities which have grown out of the stipulations of those treaties, in consequence of the refusal of England to adopt the principles they contain. They are also directed to give fair and complete explanations of the conduct of the government they represent, to state fully and truly the heavy injuries which their fellow-citizens have sustained; and to ask from the equity of a great and magnanimous republic that compensation for those injuries which, we flatter ourselves, their justice will not refuse, and their liberal policy will not hesitate to give.

Bringing with them the temper of their government and country, searching only for the means of effecting the objects of their mission, they have permitted no personal considerations to influence their conduct, but have waited under circumstances beyond measures embarrassing and unpleasant, with that respect which the American government has so uniformly paid to that of France, for permission to lay before you, citizen minister, these important communications with which they have been charged.

Perceiving no probability of being allowed to enter, in the usual forms, on those discussions which might tend to restore harmony between the two Republics, they have deemed it most adviseable, even under the circumstances of informality which attend the measure, to address to your government, through you this candid review of the conduct, and this true representation of the sentiments and wishes of the Government of the United States. They pray that it may be received in the temper with which it is written, and considerd as an additional effort, growing out of a disposition common to the Government and people of America, to cultivate and restore, if it be possible, harmony between the two republics. If, citizen minister, there remains hope that these desirable objects can be effected by any means which the United States have authorized, the undersigned will still respectfully attend the developement of those means.

If on the contrary no such hope remains; they have only to pray that their return to their own country may be facilitated; and that they will leave France with the most deep felt regret, that neither the real and sincere friendship, which the government of the United States has so uniformly and unequivocally displayed for this great Republic, nor its continued efforts to demonstrate the purity of its conduct and intentions, can protect its citizens, or preserve them from the calamities which they have sought by a just and upright conduct to avert.

The undersigned pray you, Citizen minister, to accept the assurances of their perfect respect and consideration.

Paris, January 17th, 1798.
in the 22d year of American Independence.

Translated extract from the Bulletin des Lois, No. 178, printed at Paris and enclosed with the quadruplicate of the Envoy's letter, No. 6.

Law relative to vessels laden with English merchandize of the 29th Nivose, 6th year, [18th Jan. 1796.]

The Council of Ancients, adopting the reasons for the declaration of urgency, which precedes the resolution herein after contained, approves the act of urgency.

Here follows the tenor of the declaration of urgency, and the resolution of the 22d Nivose, [11th Jan. 1798.

The Council of Five Hundred, after having heard the report of a Special Committee upon the message of the Executive Directory of the 15th Nivose [14th January,] relative to English merchandize;

Considering, that the interest of the Republic demands the most prompt measures against all vessels which may be loaded therewith;

Declares, that there is urgency.

The Council, after having declared the urgency, resolves as follows:

ART. 1. The character of vessels, relative to their quality of neuter or enemy, shall be determined by their cargo; in consequence, every vessel found at sea, loaded in whole or in part with merchandize the production of England or of her possessions, shall be declared good prize, whoever the owner of these goods or merchandize may be.

ART. 2. Every foreign vessel which, in the course of her voyage shall have entered into an English port, shall not be admitted into a port of the French Republic, except in case of necessity; in which case she shall be bound to depart from the said port as soon as the causes of her entry shall have ceased.

Art. 3. The present resolution shall be printed.

(Signed) BOULAY (of la Meurthe) Pres
GUILLEMARDET, } Secrs.
ROEMERS, }

After a second reading, the Council of Ancients *approves* the above resolution. The 29th of Nivose, sixth year of the French Republic (18th Jan. 1798.)

(Signed) MARRAGON, Pres.
ET LAVEUX KAYFFMANN, }
MENUAU, } Secrs.
MERIC, }

The Executive Directory orders, that the above law shall be printed, executed, and that it shall be sealed with the seal of the Republic.

Done at the National Palace of the Executive Directory, the 29th Nivose, sixth year of the French Republic, one and indivisible. (11th January 1798)

For a true Copy:
(Signed) P. BARRAS, Pres.
By the Executive Directory,
The Secretary General, LAGARDE,
And sealed with the seal of the Republic.

I hereby give notice, to all whom it may concern, that I am desirous to pay all the debts of my late Father, John Madison, dec'd, for which purpose, I call on all those, who may have any Claims against the said Estate, to bring them in, properly attested, on or before the 20th day of October next, when I shall settle and divide the said Estate; and close my Administration thereof.—

HENRY MADISON Admr.
Hanover May 21, 1798. (2w)

VIRGINIA:
In the High Court of Chancery,

Between
Cadwallader Evans, administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of Amos Strettle, deceased, left unadministered by Henry Drinker, Abel James and John Strettle, executors of Amos Strettle, plaintiff;
And
James Hayes and Anne Dent his wife, defendants.

THIS cause came on this seventh day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, to be heard on the bill, answer, exhibits and the report of the surveyor of the county of Henry, pursuant to the order of the thirtieth day of September last, and was argued by counsel; on consideration whereof, the court doth *adjudge, order* and *decree*, that unless the defendants do on or before the first day of January next, pay unto the plaintiff one thousand five hundred pounds current money of Virginia, the value of four thousand five hundred pounds paper money reduced according to the statutory scale of depreciation of the state of Pennsylvania, with interest thereon from the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, 'till payment and the costs of this suit, the said defendants and their heirs and all persons claiming under them be from thenceforth barred and foreclosed of their equity and rights to redeem the tract or parcel of land commonly called the Falls Plantation, mentioned in the indenture of mortgage among the exhibits made the twentieth day of September one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, between William Black of the one part and Amos Strettle of the other part, and in case of default in the payment of the said debt, interests and costs at the time aforesaid, that

or any two of them, after giving three weeks previous notice thereof in one or more of the Richmond news-papers, do expose to public sale by Auction for ready money, subject to the dower of the widow of the said William Black, so much of the land mentioned in the said indenture, and in such parts as the defendant James Hayes shall direct, as will be sufficient to satisfy the plaintiff's demand aforesaid, and out of the proceeds of such sale pay to the plaintiff his said debt, interest & costs, and the surplus, if any, after deducting the expenses attending the said sale, pay to the defendant James Hayes, and make report thereof to the court.

A Copy,
Teste,
PETER TINSLEY, c. c.

VIRGINIA:
In the High Court of Chancery,

Between
Cadwallader Evans, administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, of Amos Strettle, deceased, left unadministered by Henry Drinker, Abel James and John Strettle, executors of Amos Strettle, Plaintiff;
And
James Hayes and Anne Dent his wife, Defendants.

ON the motion of the plaintiff by his counsel, James Heron, Robert Pollard and John Lyne, or any two of them are appointed commissioners for performing the decretal order pronounced in this cause on the seventh day of June last, in place of the commissioners heretofore appointed; and the court doth further adjudge, order and decree, that out of the money which may be produced by the sale directed by the said decretal order, the said commissioners in addition to the money and costs thereby recovered, do pay unto the plaintiff interest upon the value of one hundred pounds, Pennsylvania currency, to be reduced according to the statutory scale of depreciation of that state, on the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, from the twentieth day of September, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, 'till paid; interest upon the same sum to be reduced by the same scale from the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, 'till paid, interest upon the same sum to be reduced by the same scale, from the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, 'till paid; interest upon the same sum to be reduced by the same scale from the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and eighty one 'till paid; and interest upon the same sum to be reduced by the same scale from the twentieth day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty two, 'till paid.

A Copy,
Teste,
PETER TINSLEY, c. h. c. c.

PURSUANT to the above Decrees of the High Court of Chancery, Will be offered for SALE, on TUESDAY the THIRD day of JULY next on the premises, at public auction, for ready money, that valuable tract of LAND on which Mr. James Hayes lives, adjoining the town of Manchester, known by the name of the

FALLS PLANTATION,

Or so much thereof as will be sufficient to raise the sum of money with interest and costs ordered by the said decrees.

J. HERON.
R. FOLLARD.
JOHN LYNE.

21st May, 1798.

The above plantation was not sold agreeable to a late advertisment, owing to a mistake in the day appointed for the sale.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber, on the first Monday in March, 1797, a likely mulatto boy, about 25 years of age, called DRURY PETTYFOOT; he was an apprentice, and had to serve till the age of 21. He was sometime lurking about Richmond, and I have reason to believe, he is now at Norfolk. I will give a reward of ten dollars to have him secured in jail. Masters of vessels and others are cautioned not to employ him.

CALEB JOHNSTON.
Mecklenburg, May 20, 1798. (2w)

FOR SALE,

BY Virtue of a Deed of Trust, executed to me by William Reynolds of Henrico county, for the purpose of securing a debt due to William Wiseham and William Richardson, executors of John Beale dec. as security of Henry Banks:—Will be sold to the highest bidder for ready money, on the 30th of next month on the premises, A TRACT OF LAND belonging to the said Reynolds, in Hanover county, containing by estimation One Thousand Acres more or less; lying on the road from Richmond to New-Castle, and within five mile of the latter, for the purpose of discharging the aforesaid debt and costs.

PHILIP SHEPHERD, Trustee.
Richmond, May 28th, 1798. (4w)

THE HIGH BRED IMPORTED

HORSE,

BEDFORD,

WAS a very good racer at New-Market, in England, when three years old, (which was the only year he ran.) He is descended from the best stock there, as will appear by his pedigree below. He has covered two seasons in this state, and is mais a terka bie ture horse, and considered by all judges who have seen his colts, to be one of the best foal getters that has ever appeared in this (or perhaps) any other country; his stock being generally very large, high formed, with excellent action, and very much like their sire. One hundred guineas has been refused for a filly of his get, at eight months old.

BEDFORD was bred by Lord Grosvenor, is a most beautiful bay, six years old this spring, near fifteen hands high, very handsome, and so generally known now, as a capital foal getter, that it is necessary only to say, that he will stand the ensuing season, at the Bowling Green, and will cover mares at Two and a Half Guineas the leap, (to be paid at the stable door) Six Guineas the season, and Nine Guineas to ensure a mare to be with foal, which may be discharged the tenth of August next, by the payment of Five Guineas, *or* the first day of June next, by the payment of Twenty Dollars; but if the money is paid when the mare is first covered, Four Guineas the season, or Eight for ensuring a mare to be with foal, with one dollar to the groom (in every instance) will be received as full compensation. Good pasturage, gratis—servants who attend the mares, may be boarded on moderate terms, and grain furnished at the market price. The greatest attention will be paid to the mares, but no responsibility for accidents or escapes. Notes for Six Guineas the season, or Ten to ensure, (to be discharged as above mentioned) must be sent with the mares. The season will commence immediately, and end the tenth of August. The ensurance money will be returned if the mare does not prove with foal, and remains the property of the person who put her to the horse, by application to

JOHN HOOMES.
Bowling-Green, March 1, 1798.

PEDIGREE.

I DO certify, that BEDFORD was got by Dungannon, his dam Fairy, by High-Flyer; grandam Fairy Queen, by Young Cade; her dam Routhe's Black Eyes, by Crab, out of the Warlock Galloway, by Snake, and was three years old last spring.

GROSVENOR.
November 1st, 1795.

VIRGINIA:
IN THE HIGH COURT OF CHANCERY,
March 17th, 1798.

Between
William Fleet, and Sarah his wife, Alexander Lawson, and Elizabeth, his wife, Charles Browne, Basil Browne, and Andrew Cochran Browne, sons of Bennett Browne, deceased, infants, by the said William Fleet, their guardian and next friend, Mary Browne, widow of the said Bennett Browne, and Precilla Brooke Browne, and Mary Hill Browne, daughters of the said Bennett Browne, infants, by the said Mary Browne, their guardian and next friend, Charles Browne, and Sarah Browne, & Robert Browne, infants, by the said Charles Browne, their next friend, which said Charles, Sarah, and Robert, are children of Robert Browne, deceased, Plfs.
And
The right honorable Patrick, Earl of Dumfries, William Cunningham, John M'Donald, John Robertson, Alexander M'Caul, Robert Finlay, jun. John Ballantyne, and William Ballantyne, formerly merchants in Glasgow, Robert Campbell, formerly of Queen Ann's county, in Maryland, trustees and executors of James Browne, William Richmond, executor of Basil Browne, who was surviving executor of Precilla Brooke Browne, and administrator with the will annexed of Robert Browne, deceased, James Govan, and Walter Colquhoun, Defts.

THE defendants, the right honorable Patrick Earl of Dumfries, William Cunningham, John M'Donald, John Robertson, Alexander M'Caul, Robert Finlay, jun. John Ballantyne, William Ballantyne, Robert Campbell, and William Richmond, not having entered their appearance and given security according to the act of assembly and the rules of this court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that they are not inhabitants of this country—On the motion of the plaintiffs, by their counsel, IT IS ORDERED, That the said defendants do appear here on the first day of the next September term, and answer the bill of the plaintiffs, and that a copy of this order be forthwith inserted in some newspaper of the city of Richmond, or two months successively, and posted at the front door of the capitol in the said city.

(A Copy)
Teste,
PETER TINSLEY, c. h. c. c.

The lately imported, complete Horse

TRAVELLER,

The last Son of O'Kelly's Famous

ECLIPSE,

WILL Stand the ensuing Season at Buck Hill (on the south side of James River) about a mile from Richmond, and will be let to Mares at SIX GUINEAS the Season, FOUR GUINEAS the Leap, and TWELVE GUINEAS insurance, either of which, with a DOLLAR to the Groom, to be paid before the mares are removed. The insurance money will be returned on application with proof that the Mare did not prove with foal.

In addition to what pasturage there may be at Buck-Hill I have rented (at one hundred pounds per annum) a considerable quantity of the [illegible] Plantation for the purpose of pasturage, equal to any in the State. Great attention will be paid to Mares and to keep the fences in good order, but will not be responsible for any accident.

TRAVELLER is a beautiful bay, full five feet three inches high, was got by Eclipse, his dam by King Herod, grandam by Blank, great grand dam by old Cade. His fine figure and justness of form are such as to excite the admiration of all who see him—and his blood, great size, strength and beauty, independent of his performance, entitle him to be placed amongst the very first horses, and induce me to believe that he is not inferior to any horse ever imported. Pasturage gratis.

JAMES STRANGE.
Manchester, January 15, 1798.

☞ As many gentlemen may not receive the proceeds of their crops so early as to make it convenient to pay during the covering season, I am willing to to give credit until the first of January ensuing, on receiving satisfactory assurance of the money being certainly paid on or before that time.

N. B. Servants coming with mares can be accommodated with board at Mr. Brooke's tavern, at two shillings per day, ten shillings and sixpence per week, or six dollars per month.

LEAD.

ON Saturday the Ninth day of June next, the Directors of the Public Buildings, will proceed to Sell to the highest bidder, at the Capitol,

A LARGE QUANTITY OF

SHEET LEAD

Which was the cover of that Building—It will be set up in Lots of One to Five Tons, as will best suit the purchasers—A CREDIT OF SIXTY DAYS will be allowed—Bond with satisfactory security will be required, or deposits must be made to secure the payment.

Richmond, May, 1798. (3w)

FOR SALE,

THREE likely young NEGRO WOMEN, One of them has always been accustomed to the house, and is an excilent lady's maid. She has two young children—The other two is used to the field only. One of them has three children.—A handsome light POST-CHAISE, perfectly new, with plated Harness for a pair of horses, is also offered for Sale. Likewise a pair of well broke able BAY CARRIAGE HORSES. Great bargains may be had for Cash. Apply to the Printer.

An admirable Dining-Room SERVANT, whose honesty, fidelity and sobriety, are questionable, will be Hired for the space of eighteen mons. Also a good POSTILION, and a lady's MAID Apply as above.

THE SUBSCRIBER,

RESIDING in Lexington, Kentucky, offers his services to those persons, whose landed or pecuniary concerns require the interference of an agent. Those who wish to remit money for the payment of taxes, may lodge the same with Messrs. Pickett, Pollard, and Johnston, of the city of Richmond.

GEORGE CLARK.
April 1, 1798. (oamtf)

PRINTED BY AUG. DAVIS,

PRINTER TO THE COMMONWEALTH.